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## SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**First Parish in Concord  
Sunday, October 27, 2024**

*Please check our weekly e-newsletter, FP Weekly, for Zoom links  
for events you are interested in attending virtually.*

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### **Reclaim Our Democracy is Back! TODAY! During Coffee Hour**

The Reclaim Our Democracy team is back at coffee hour today with information about how we can all "Do Something" on behalf of democracy before the election. There is just over a week left until the polls close. Come by and get information on how to get out the vote and encourage our UU values. Action, especially working together, can help to quell anxiety. We are happy to talk with you about available opportunities for voter engagement. We hope to see you there!

### **Donations to the UUA Disaster Fund TODAY!**



Please scan the QR code or go to <https://www.uua.org/giving/disaster-relief> to provide support for those impacted by Hurricane Helene. A basket will also be available for collections during coffee hour.

### **Transylvanian Scholarship Program TODAY! Stop by during Coffee Hour**

Each year generous participants in our Székelykeresztúr Student Scholarship Program, overseen by the Partner Congregation Committee, help make high school and college education possible for 40-50 deserving students from the Hungarian minority population there and area villages. If you would like to become a scholarship donor for one of the new freshmen students in need of financial help, please contact Kathy Spang at [katalinspang@yahoo.com](mailto:katalinspang@yahoo.com) for more information, or stop by the PCC table at coffee hour.

### **Fall RE Volunteers**

We're looking for adults to volunteer for one or more Sunday morning sessions. Volunteering in Religious Education is a fun way to connect with our young people! We have four age-groups: Little RE, Elementary, Jr. Youth, and High School Youth. All volunteers receive support and work with other RE leaders. For more information, please contact Rev. Amy Freedman: [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org)

### **Baked Goods from the Hakimi Kids TODAY! During Coffee Hour Parish Hall**

Something delicious awaits you during coffee hour! Make sure you stop at the Hakimi kids' sweets table this Sunday the 27th! Sales will be donated to Lowell Youth Soccer Association, in appreciation for waived fees, free soccer equipment, and rides to practices and games for the three participating Hakimi boys. Now they will have forever scholarships! FP parents & kids: Want to help bake? Come October 26 from 1:30-3:30. For more information, email Jane Blumberg at [jane\\_blumberg@me.com](mailto:jane_blumberg@me.com).

### **Holiday Artisans Fair Coming Soon! Saturday, November 2, 10:00 a.m.**

#### **All Rooms at First Parish in Concord**

Get ready to come to the Holiday Artisans Fair on November 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Indoors, rain or shine. All three floors will be filled with artists, artisans, crafters, photographers, specialty food vendors, etc. The WPA Boutique will be filled with favorite items. Great holiday and personal shopping. Food served throughout the day for a fun-filled time with family and friends.

**Welcome! We are so glad you are here. Please stop by the Welcome Table after service  
or fill out a Connection Card located in your pew.**

Contact Dian Pekin at [pekindc@comcast.net](mailto:pekindc@comcast.net) if you would like to help for an hour or two.  
Contact Melita Teichert at [mmtconcord1@gmail.com](mailto:mmtconcord1@gmail.com) to help at the Boutique. See you at the fair!

**Men/Masculine Identified folks: A Practical Exploration of Spirituality**  
**Sunday, November 3, 11:30 a.m.**

**Emerson Room**

4 Monthly two-hour sessions. facilitated by Paul Langston-Daley and Jeff Clanon. Limited to 12 First Parish Men First Sunday of the month beginning Nov. 3. At our September Retreat a group of men/masc identified folks focused on Spirituality. This program is a continuation of the in-depth conversation that occurred there. It is an opportunity for First Parish men and masculine identified folks to have a clearer sense of the value of spirituality in their lives and enhance their practice in whatever ways they find most meaningful and beneficial.

**Emerson Reading Group**  
**Second Wednesdays each month**  
**7:15-9:00 p.m.**

Come read together, discuss and enjoy Ralph Waldo Emerson's essays. No homework required! Simply come with a copy of the essay assigned. Open to all. Charles Phillips, longtime fan of Ralph Waldo Emerson, will guide us and answer questions. Charles provides the essays by email, and they are also available at [rwe.org](http://rwe.org). We are reading:

- Nov. 13: Nature – Idealism.
- To sign up or if you have questions, please email Charles Phillips at [ctphillips27@gmail.com](mailto:ctphillips27@gmail.com) or call the FP office at (978) 369-9602.

**Thanksgiving Food Drive**  
**Sunday, November 24, 10:00 a.m.**

**Sanctuary**

As a part of our Thanksgiving Service, First Parish will host a food drive to help our neighbors. Open Table supplies many of the "fixings" for a Thanksgiving meal. They are looking for the following food items to round out this holiday feast.

Baking: Flour, Sugar, Baking Powder, Chocolate Chips, Chopped Nuts, Quick Bread Baking Mix, Brownie Baking Mix, Cornbread Baking Mix  
Beverages: Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Herbal Tea

All ages will be invited to bring forward donations during the service. Thank you for any help you can offer!

**Sharing Bread Stories**  
**Sunday, November 24, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Sanctuary & Zoom**

Do you have a favorite kind of bread? What kind of bread honors your family heritage? Are there traditions or a funny story related to bread that you'd like to share? On Sunday, November 24 we will have a Thanksgiving Service celebrating the many kinds of bread that nourish and sustain us! All ages are invited to participate and bring bread to share at Coffee Hour. If you would like to share a story, please email Rev. Amy Freedman: [afreedman@firstparish.org](mailto:afreedman@firstparish.org).

**Women's Retreats - Save the Dates**  
**Friday, January 10, 5:00 p.m.**

**Rolling Ridge, North Andover, MA**

Save the Dates! Women's Retreats 2025

The Women's Retreats weekend at Rolling Ridge

in North Andover will start on Friday evening, January 10 and run through Sunday lunch on January 12, 2025. All FP women are invited! Registration opens in mid-November.

Information coming soon about an At-Home Retreat being planned for early next year.

Sponsored by the Women's Retreats Committee.

Questions? Contact Bozena Smith at [bozenasmith@mindspring.com](mailto:bozenasmith@mindspring.com).

**Are you worried about possible election interference?**

**Tuesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.**

**Parish Hall**

This coming Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Join us for a presentation with Jennifer and Paul on Anticipating Election Interference\*.

We'll share some facts and strategies for how to talk to neighbors and friends about what to expect and what we know. There will be opportunities for questions. Join us as we breathe deeply and prepare for the coming election.

\*(slide show presentation courtesy of UUSJ Democracy Team. A recording of the presentation by UUSJ is available here: <https://youtu.be/VAh5jQW1Rvg>.)